United Nations A/61/727–S/2007/54

General Assembly
Security Council

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**General Assembly**
**Sixty-first session**
Agenda item 19
**Question of Cyprus**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-second year**

## Letter dated 2 February 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 2 February 2007, addressed to you by Mr. Kemal Gökeri, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex), forwarding the letter of Mr. Mehmet Ali Talat, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Baki **İlkin**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-22933 (E) 050207

## Annex to the letter dated 2 February 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of the letter dated 2 February 2007 addressed to you by Mr. Mehmet Ali Talat, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) M. Kemal **Gökeri**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

## Enclosure

It has come to our attention that the Greek Cypriot administration, which purports to be "the Government of the Republic of Cyprus", has recently concluded an agreement with Lebanon on the delimitation of the exclusive economic zone, which undermines the rights and interests of the Turkish Cypriot side.

It should be stated, at the outset, that the Greek Cypriot administration does not represent the entire island or the Turkish Cypriot people. It neither has the legal right nor the legitimacy to claim to represent or act on behalf of Turkish Cypriots who are represented by their own elected representatives and live under their own administration. This has been further evidenced by the fact that the referenda on the Comprehensive Settlement Plan conducted on 24 April 2004 were separate and simultaneous, underlining the fact that each side represents itself and no one else and has equal right and say on the island of Cyprus and its future.

There is no doubt that the Turkish Cypriot people, who were the equal partner in the 1960 Republic of Cyprus and would again be the political equal of the Greek Cypriot people in a future comprehensive agreement to be reached under the auspices of your good offices mission, have equal right and say on the natural resources on the land and sea areas of the island of Cyprus. It would be remembered that the Greek Cypriot administration had concluded a similar agreement with Egypt in 2003, which was objected to by the Turkish Cypriot side for the very reasons mentioned above.

In view of the foregoing, this agreement signed by the Greek Cypriot administration under its purported capacity as the "Government of the Republic of Cyprus", is null and void and is not, in any way, binding on the Turkish Cypriot people or the island as a whole.

Moreover, the signing of such agreements, as well as the statements made by the Greek Cypriot authorities continue to undermine stability in the whole Eastern Mediterranean region.

In fact, recent developments have shown the urgency of a final comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue that will enable all Turkish and Greek Cypriots to benefit jointly from the island's resources. Therefore, all parties concerned should strive for enhancing prospects for a final and comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem.

(*Signed*) Mehmet **Ali Talat**
President

United Nations S/2007/55

# Security Council

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5 February 2007

Original: English

## Letter dated 31 January 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) established by the Security Council in its resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991.

Following the usual consultations, it is my intention to appoint Julian Harston (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as my Special Representative for Western Sahara and Head of MINURSO, with immediate effect. Mr. Harston, who has previously served as Deputy Special Representative for the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina and as Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti, is currently serving as Director of the United Nations Office in Belgrade.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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United Nations S/2007/56

Security Council

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## Letter dated 5 February 2007 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 31 January 2007 (S/2007/55) concerning your intention to appoint Julian Harston (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as your Special Representative for Western Sahara and Head of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Peter **Burian**
President of the Security Council

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General Assembly
Security Council

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**General Assembly**
**Sixty-first session**
Agenda item 13
**The situation in the Middle East**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-second year**

## Identical letters dated 6 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations during the period from 22 to 31 January 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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## Annex to the identical letters dated 6 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

### Air violations

On 22 January 2007, between 0810 hours and 0900 hours, four enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the occupied Sha'ba farmlands in a northerly direction as far as Hasbaiya and circled over the southern regions. They then departed Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab.

On the same date, between 0900 hours and 1400 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre in an easterly direction and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab.

On the same date, between 1115 hours and 1420 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Yaroun and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace over Rmaich.

On the same date, between 1410 hours and 1710 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Al-Naqoura and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace over Rmaich.

On 23 January 2007, eight enemy Israeli warplanes and three reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace and circled over regions of the South, Chekka, the Bekaa and Tripoli as follows:

At 0200 hours a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Rmaich and departed Lebanese airspace at 0325 hours. At 0810 hours a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab and departed Lebanese airspace at 1530 hours over Rmaich. At 1037 hours two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab and departed Lebanese airspace at 1048 hours over the sea off Chekka. At 1049 hours, four warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Rmaich and departed Lebanese airspace at 1150 hours over the sea off Al-Naqoura. At 1054 hours, two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tripoli and departed Lebanese airspace at 1115 hours over Kfar Kila. At 1655 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab in a northerly direction and departed Lebanese airspace on 24 January 2007 at 0125 hours over Aalma al-Chaab.

On 24 January 2007, between 0745 hours and 1640 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab and circled over the South region. It then departed Lebanese airspace over Rmaich.

On the same date, between 1131 hours and 1430 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre and circled over the South region. It then departed Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab.

On 25 January 2007, between 0727 hours and 1107 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Biyada and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace at 1107 hours over Al-Naqoura.

On the same date, between 1052 hours and 1112 hours, two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tripoli as far as Chekka and circled over Chekka and Tripoli. They then departed Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Qlaiaat in the direction of Turkey.

On the same date, between 1140 hours and 1225 hours, two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Chekka in an easterly direction and circled over Chekka, Tripoli and the sea. They then headed south and departed Lebanese airspace at 1225 hours over the sea off Al-Naqoura.

On the same date, between 1855 hours and 2307 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Biyada and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace off Al-Naqoura.

On the same date, at 2259 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Biyada in an easterly direction and circled over the southern regions. It then departed Lebanese airspace on 26 January 2007 at 0213 hours over Al-Naqoura.

On 26 January 2007, six enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace and circled over the southern regions as follows: At 0200 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Biyada and departed Lebanese airspace at 0700 hours over Aalma al-Chaab. At 0932 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura and departed Lebanese airspace at 1230 hours over Al-Naqoura. At 0950 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura and departed Lebanese airspace at 1242 hours over Rmaich. At 1220 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Al-Naqoura and departed Lebanese airspace at 1330 hours over Al-Naqoura. At 1230 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Kfar Kila and departed Lebanese airspace at 1650 hours over Rmaich. At 1345 hours, a reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura and departed Lebanese airspace at 1500 hours over Kfar Kila.

## Sea violations

None reported.

## Field aggressions

On 27, 28 and 29 January 2007 at various times, in some areas of Tyre and Al-Nabatiye, a number of Israeli balloons containing poison gases were found. Some had Hebrew writings on them and others had unclear writings. A number of citizens were taken to hospital because of them. Lebanese Army Corps of Engineers units acted to remove them and take the necessary action regarding them.

## Israeli activities

On 22 January 2007, at 1559 hours, the sound of two explosions was heard inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite Ras al-Naqoura.

On the same date, between 1600 hours and 2000 hours, inside occupied Palestinian territory (opposite Labboune) near position W-404, enemy Israeli forces opened fire with light machine guns.

On the same date, between 1755 hours and 1810 hours, within occupied Palestinian regional waters, a number of hot-air balloons were seen in the sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On the same date, at 1909 hours, inside occupied Palestinian regional waters, an enemy Israeli military launch fired a flare bomb over said waters.

On the same date, at 2055 hours, from one of their positions inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite the town of Aaitaroun, enemy Israeli forces fired a flare bomb over said position.

On the morning of 23 January 2007, enemy Israeli forces went into a state of alert in their outposts all along the border with Lebanon.

On the same date, between 1145 hours and 1345 hours, enemy Israeli forces strafed the area around their position at Samaqa inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands with machine-gun fire.

On the same date, at 1615 hours, the sound of several explosions was heard inside occupied Palestinian territory (opposite Ras al-Naqoura).

On 26 January 2007, at 1044 hours, the sound of an explosion was heard in Wadi Qatmun opposite the town of Rmaich.

On the same date, at 0954 hours, in the open sea off Ras al-Naqoura, an enemy Israeli military launch fired several rounds of medium-machine-gun fire over occupied Palestinian regional waters.

On 28 January 2007, between 1445 hours and 1600 hours, two enemy Israeli helicopters overflew their positions at Ramta and Samaqa inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands. Enemy Israeli forces also fired several rounds from various types of weapons inside said farmlands.

On 29 January 2007, between 1830 hours and 1900 hours, enemy Israeli forces fired several rounds in the area of the Dovev settlement inside occupied Palestinian territory (opposite the town of Yaroun).

On 30 January 2007, at 1050 hours, in Khallet Warda near the enemy Israeli forces' W-413 position inside occupied Palestinian territory (opposite Aalma al-Chaab), the sound of a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire was heard. At 1245 hours, the sound of an explosion and several rounds of medium-weapons fire was heard. The sound of another explosion was heard at 1400 hours.

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**General Assembly**
**Tenth emergency special session**
Agenda item 5
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-second year**

## Identical letters dated 6 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In follow-up to our letter dated 24 January 2007, Israel, the occupying Power, has stepped up its illegal actions, especially in Occupied East Jerusalem, which aim to intensify expansionist policy for the colonization and Judaization of Arab Jerusalem, with the support of fanatic Jewish settler groups.

Israel, the occupying Power, is continuing its campaign to Judaize the city of Jerusalem and create a new demographic composition in the occupied city. Such actions demonstrate clearly the intransigence of the Israeli Government and its persistence in defying the will of the international community and in violating international law and United Nations resolutions. In this context, it is imperative for the international community to take measures in order to confront these Israeli policies and actions, to ensure respect for international law and to prevent further escalation of the situation in the region.

In line with this unchecked intransigence, Israeli occupying authorities have gone ahead with the condemnable plan to step up its aggression against Islamic Waqf sites in Occupied East Jerusalem. Most notably, Israeli occupying authorities have begun demolishing a historic road connecting Bab Al-Maghariba with the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound, in addition to two rooms adjacent to the Western Wall, thus exposing the Holy Compound and making it more vulnerable yet to future acts of aggression. Additionally, Israeli occupying authorities continue to carry out excavation works below the Holy Al-Aqsa Compound, undermining its foundations and threatening it with collapse.

There are also concerning reports that Israel, the occupying Power, plans to construct a tourist side below the Holy Al-Aqsa Compound, further raising fears about serious threats facing the Holy Compound. Additionally, Israeli occupying authorities have banned Palestinians below the age of 45 from entering the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound in grave contravention of their basic right to access

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their holy sites and clear violation of Israel's obligations, as an occupying Power, to ensure and protect that right.

These provocative actions are not the first of their kind. Since 1968, the Security Council has adopted 16 resolutions regarding the city of Jerusalem, and has repeatedly declared that all measures and arrangements taken by Israel, the occupying Power, including the legislative and administrative ones, which aim at changing the legal status, demographic composition and character of the city, are null and void and without any legal validity whatsoever. Furthermore, the Security Council has repeatedly reaffirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to all the territories occupied by Israel in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

Obviously, the drive by Israel, the occupying Power, to Judaize Jerusalem and to illegally change the status, demographic composition and character of the Holy City is intensifying amid the inability of the Security Council to stop the Israeli violation of international law and relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

The Security Council, as the body responsible for maintaining international peace and security, has the responsibility to take immediate action in order to reverse the Israeli decision, bring an end to the Israeli violations and guarantee respect for the Council's resolutions and for international law.

It must be absolutely clear that Israel, as an occupying Power, has responsibilities in accordance with international law that it must respect with regard to safeguarding holy sites in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as ensuring and respecting Palestinians' rights to access their holy sites. Respecting these rights is not a luxury Israel can choose to bestow upon the Palestinian people under its occupation. Instead, it is an obligation that Israel must be compelled to respect.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Muin **Shreim**
Chargé d' affaires a.i.

United Nations S/2007/59

Security Council

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7 February 2007

Original: English

# Letter dated 29 January 2007 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities (see annex), which was adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 26 January 2007 and is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

I would like to underline that the report reflects the work of the Committee in 2006 under the chairmanship of my predecessor, Ambassador César Mayoral (Argentina), whom I thank for his leadership and for the considerable progress that has been achieved.

(*Signed*) Johan **Verbeke**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities

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## Annex

# Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities

## I. Introduction

1. The purpose of the present report is to provide a factual summary of the Committee's activities during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006, in accordance with the transparency measures outlined by the President of the Security Council in his note of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234). The last annual report of the Committee was submitted on 13 January 2006 (S/2006/22).

## II. Background information

2. Following consultations among the members of the Security Council, the Council agreed to elect the bureau of the Committee for 2006, which consisted of Ambassador César Mayoral (Argentina) as Chairman, with the delegations of Ghana and Greece providing the two Vice-Chairmen (see S/2006/66). The Committee was guided in the discharge of its mandate by Council resolution 1617 (2005) and other relevant resolutions. The Committee also benefited in its work from the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, discussed in detail in the Secretary-General's report of 27 April 2006 (A/60/825). The Committee was assisted by the New York-based Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, which worked under its direction.

## III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

3. The Committee continued its proactive approach to discharging its mandate and enhanced its role in the fight against terrorism. During the reporting period, the Committee held 3 formal meetings and continued its practice of holding informal meetings, holding 38 informal meetings at the expert level. In January and July, the Committee considered and approved its programme of work, based on Council resolution 1617 (2005), as well as the list of main pending issues to be discussed at informal meetings of the Committee. The Committee agreed to continuously update the programme of work to allow for the highest degree of flexibility in its work.

### Briefings given every 120 days by the Chairman of the Committee to the Security Council

4. On 21 February, Ambassador Mayoral and the Chairmen of the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) gave a joint briefing, at which he informed the Council of the current and future activities of the Committee and the Monitoring Team (S/PV.5375). The second and third joint briefings given by Ambassador Mayoral with the Chairmen of the above-mentioned Committees were held on 30 May (S/PV.5446) and 28 September (S/PV.5538), respectively. In addition, as outgoing Chairman of the Committee, Ambassador Mayoral gave a final briefing, in his personal capacity, on 20 December (S/PV.5601).

**Recommendations contained in the fourth and fifth reports of the Monitoring Team**

5. During the opening months of 2006, the Committee, in the presence of experts of the Monitoring Team, considered in depth the recommendations contained in the Team's fourth report, submitted on 31 January (S/2006/154, enclosure), with the aim of agreeing upon possible follow-up action to further improve the effectiveness of the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime. In September and October, the Committee considered the Team's fifth report (S/2006/750, enclosure) in great detail. The Committee agreed with a great number of the recommendations contained in the two reports, and also identified a number of recommendations that would require further development and consideration by it, with regard to all three types of sanctions measures (arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze). The Committee commended the Monitoring Team for the reports and submitted its position on the recommendations contained in the fourth and fifth reports to the Security Council in documents S/2006/635 and S/2006/1047, respectively. In those reports, the Committee noted that the recommendations should be brought to the attention of Member States, as they could significantly improve their implementation of the sanctions measures.

**Written analytical assessment pursuant to Security Council resolution 1617 (2005)**

6. In order to comply with its obligation, pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution 1617 (2005), to submit a written analytical assessment of action taken by Member States to implement sanctions measures, the Committee requested the Monitoring Team to assist it by providing a preliminary assessment of States' compliance. Pursuant to annex I to the above resolution, the Monitoring Team submitted an update of its previous assessment (S/2005/761, annex I) on 27 October (S/2006/1046, enclosure). The Committee found it to be a valuable source of information that allowed the Committee to arrive at its own conclusions, which were reflected in its assessment (S/2006/1046, annex). The Committee submitted the assessment to the Security Council with the intention of assisting it in further improving the current sanctions measures, encouraging all States to implement the sanctions measures, providing feedback for Member States that had submitted their reports pursuant to resolution 1455 (2003) and checklists under resolution 1617 (2005) and encouraging non-reporting States to submit their reports.

**Exceptions under Security Council resolution 1452 (2002)**

7. The Committee continued to consider notifications and requests submitted pursuant to resolution 1452 (2002) on an expedited basis. The Committee also maintained and regularly updated its list of States that have approached the Committee under the resolution. During the reporting period, the Committee received 41 communications from States seeking exceptions to the sanctions measures in accordance with subparagraphs 1 (a) or (b) of resolution 1452 (2002), an increase in comparison with 2005.

**Requests seeking the Committee's confirmation of the identity of certain individuals**

8. The Committee received a number of requests from States seeking assistance from the Committee in confirming the identity of certain individuals for the purpose of implementing the sanctions, in particular with regard to the assets freeze. The Committee assisted these States by providing liaison to them, through its secretariat, with designating States in the event that they might have had more identifying information than appears on the Committee's list. The Committee intends to improve this established practice to respond more promptly and efficiently to States seeking the assistance of the Committee in this regard.

**Revision of the Committee's guidelines**

9. In accordance with paragraph 18 of resolution 1617 (2005), the Committee focused on revising the guidelines for the conduct of its work, in particular by addressing listing and de-listing procedures, so that the guidelines could serve as a better tool for rationalizing its own work and for providing guidance to Member States in their implementation efforts. Following intensive efforts by all of its members, in 29 November the Committee revised its working guidelines, specifically section 6 dealing with listing issues, and informed Member States accordingly (SC/8890). On 19 December, the Security Council adopted resolution 1730 (2006), regarding procedures for the removal of individuals and entities from sanctions lists. In that resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish, within the Secretariat (Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch), an administrative focal point to receive petitions from sanctioned individuals and entities. The resolution provided the focal point with clear procedures to deal with the de-listing requests in order to ensure that petitioners get a fair hearing.

**Dialogue with States**

10. On 30 March, the Committee issued a press release SC/8681, in which it recalled paragraph 14 of resolution 1617 (2005) and invited States to send their representatives to meet with the Committee to discuss relevant issues in greater depth. The meeting, held on 15 May, was attended by the representatives of Germany, Sweden and Switzerland, who informed the Committee about their joint efforts to increase the effectiveness of the sanctions and also referred to a paper written by the Watson Institute for International Studies dealing with the legal and political difficulties posed by sanctions targeting individuals. The presentation and subsequent discussion were useful to the Committee, in particular in connection with its preparations to revise its listing and de-listing guidelines. In this connection, the Committee and its Chairman strongly encouraged other States to benefit from the opportunity provided in resolution 1617 (2005) and to meet with the Committee to discuss any sanctions related issues.

11. On 25 April, the Committee, with a view to improving the transparency of its work, sent two notes verbales to States: one (SCA/2/06(9)) recalling resolution 1452 (2002), specifically reminded States of the exceptions provided to the sanctions regime; and the other (SCA/2/06(8)) clarified the Committee's procedures concerning deceased individuals whose names appear on the Committee's list.

**Open briefing to States**

12. On 26 July, the Chairman gave a briefing to Member States at the United Nations, attended by 50 representatives, at which he informed them of new developments in the work of the Committee and invited them to seek clarification or raise any relevant sanctions-implementation issues. The briefing proved to be mutually beneficial.

**Improvements to the Committee's list and its dissemination**

13. The Committee continued to update its consolidated list of individuals and entities belonging to or associated with Al-Qaida and the Taliban on the basis of relevant information provided by Member States. The list continued to be the key instrument for States in enforcing and implementing the arms embargo, the travel ban and the assets freeze against listed individuals and entities.

14. During the reporting period, the Committee decided to add the names of 18 individuals and 6 entities to its consolidated list and de-listed 3 individuals. In one case, the Committee was unable to accede to a request for the de-listing of a suggested individual. A comprehensive list of listings and de-listings in 2006 is attached to the present report (see appendix). Following each update, the Committee issued a press release, circulated a note verbale and e-mailed the changes in the list to Member States. Currently, e-mails are sent to over 300 contact points provided by Member States and relevant international and regional organizations. Member States were requested to provide the Secretariat with designated contact points at their permanent missions to the United Nations in New York and at the ministry/agency principally responsible for the implementation of the sanctions measures. The Committee continues to stress the importance of having Member States supply such information if they have not already done so and update it, as necessary, since e-mail notification allows for very prompt implementation of the sanctions measures.

15. In accordance with paragraph 19 of resolution 1526 (2004), the Secretariat continued to transmit a hard copy of the Committee's list on a quarterly basis for the convenience of Member States. During 2006, the list was transmitted twice, in April and October (SCA/2/06(7)) and SCA/2/06(17)).

16. On 31 July, the Committee approved several technical corrections to the list, based on information provided by some States that had been reviewed and processed by the Monitoring Team. The Committee also implemented certain changes in the layout of the list on 25 July (SCA/2/06(12)), including by adding permanent reference numbers, the rendition of all names in their original language and the alphabetical reordering of the names on the Taliban section of the list.

**Cooperation with Interpol and other international organizations**

17. Enhanced cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) continues to provide the Committee with better tools to fulfil its mandate more efficiently and gives States more effective means to implement the sanctions measures. At the initiative of the Monitoring Team, the Committee substantively increased cooperation with Interpol. In December 2005, the Committee initiated the issuance of Interpol-Security Council special notices, and continued the practice into 2006, during which time 275 notices were issued. The notices are available to

national authorities through the Interpol national central bureaux. Limited versions of the notices are also available to the public at the Interpol website (www.interpol.org). In addition, the Committee also agreed with Interpol's proposal that it publish posters of persons wanted by Interpol who are also subject to United Nations sanctions.

18. In May, the Committee approved the proposals of the Monitoring Team aimed at strengthening cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), in particular with regard to the dissemination of mutually useful information and OSCE assistance in the implementation of sanctions measures by Member States. In October, the Committee approved similar proposals regarding cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The Committee is presently considering which other key international and regional organizations could contribute to its work and with which it could cooperate in ways that could assist Member States in implementing the sanctions measures.

19. On 21 February, the Chairman sent a letter to the Office of Legal Affairs expressing the Committee's satisfaction upon learning that there were no contractual relationships between organizations of the United Nations system and listed individuals and entities. The Committee also supported the decisions of the Secretary-General to carry out a review of all relevant internal procedures with a view to developing a uniform approach to this matter.

### Coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

20. On numerous occasions, the members of the Committee have highlighted the complementary functions of the three committees in the fight against international terrorism and the need for a constant exchange of information among them. In order to increase such mutual benefit, avoid possible duplication, in particular with regard to visits undertaken at the levels of Chairmen and the Monitoring Team's experts, and increase the exchange of information before and after visits, coordination among the three committees has become a regular practice.

## IV. Monitoring Team

21. The programme of work of the Monitoring Team, which it submitted in January and July, received the Committee's approval. The Monitoring Team, whose mandate under resolution 1617 (2005) expired in December 2006, continued to travel to all regions of the world, visiting 25 States in 2006, including a further visit to Afghanistan. The Team also participated in 20 international and regional conferences, which it believed promoted a better understanding of the work of the Committee, in particular the sanctions measures themselves, and thereby improved their implementation by Member States. A representative of the Team also accompanied the Chairman on his visits to selected States.

22. In addition to coordinating travel plans with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, in January the Team made its first joint visit with the Directorate, to the United Republic of Tanzania. The Team made three other joint visits with the Directorate, to the Philippines, India and Nigeria. In recognition of the need to coordinate its work with the Directorate whenever possible, the Team

prepared a paper setting out a common strategy to deal with the States that have not yet submitted their resolution 1455 (2003) reports to the Committee or their reports to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). The common strategy paper was jointly submitted to the three Committees by the Team, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the experts supporting the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), which approved it. The three groups of experts are now working out the modalities for implementing the common strategy.

23. The Team also submitted several other papers at the request of the Committee, including a guide to assist States on how best to conduct effective searches of the Committee's list and an "Explanation of terms" paper for the arms embargo (SCA/2/06(20)). Both papers will soon be made available to all States, in all six official languages of the United Nations, on the Committee's website.

24. At the request of Member States in the respective regions, the Monitoring Team continued to organize regional meetings with the heads and deputy heads of intelligence and security services to discuss how the sanctions regime could be adapted to address changes in the threat posed by Al-Qaida-related terrorism. Since its last report, the Team held four such regional meetings; one in December 2005 and one in June 2006 to discuss general issues with heads of intelligence and security services from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, the Libya Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen; one in May 2006 to discuss the threat from Al-Qaida-related terrorism in Somalia; and one in August 2006 to discuss the threat in the Western Sahel/sub-Saharan region. These meetings are an invaluable way to find out what is happening on the ground and to examine the changes in the threat from Al-Qaida and in its methodology.

25. As mandated under resolution 1617 (2005), the Monitoring Team submitted three reports to the Committee in 2006. The Team's reports submitted on 31 January (S/2006/154, enclosure) and 31 July (S/2006/750, enclosure) have been thoroughly considered by the Committee, which has submitted its own position on the recommendations contained therein to the Security Council. At the request of the Committee, the Team submitted its final report under resolution 1617 (2005) on 7 November 2006 instead of 10 December 2006, as mandated under the resolution.

26. The Committee also requested the Monitoring Team to prepare a preliminary updated written assessment, under paragraph 17 of resolution 1617 (2005), of the action taken by States to implement the sanctions regime. The Team's assessment covered the period from 1 August 2005 to 30 September 2006 and considered the six additional reports submitted by States under resolution 1455 (2003), the 54 checklists submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 1617 (2005), including the information obtained by the Team during the Chairman's trips and its own visits to 24 States within that period, its participation at international meetings and the regional meetings organized by the Team. The Committee has submitted its own assessment to the Security Council based on the assessment provided by the Team regarding States' implementation of the sanctions measures and on the three non-mandatory measures contained in resolution 1617 (2005).

## V. Visits by the Chairman and members of the Committee to selected countries

27. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 1526 (2004) and paragraph 15 of resolution 1617 (2005), the Chairman and members of the Committee made two visits to selected States. Between 27 January and 4 February 2006, the Chairman and his delegation visited Japan and Indonesia. From 28 April to 8 May 2006, the Chairman visited Qatar, Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The outcome of the Chairman's visits to Member States was detailed in his briefings to the Security Council (see S/PV.5375 and S/PV.5446).

28. The Chairman reported that the countries visited had made considerable progress in the struggle against Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. He had also learned that the national authorities felt that their countries' security was intrinsically linked with international security. The Chairman was encouraged, therefore, to observe the high level of national and international coordination and cooperation evident in the countries he had visited.

29. Visits to Member States continue to provide the Committee with useful insights into how they are implementing sanctions measures. The visits also provide Member States with a direct opportunity to share successes and best practices and to articulate assistance needs and concerns with regard to the work of the Committee.

30. Based on these and previous visits, the Committee and the Security Council need to remain aware of the gap between the sanctions obligations that have been imposed and the actual capacity of a number of countries to meet them.

## VI. Future work of the Committee and pending issues

31. The Committee achieved steady progress in its work during 2006, in particular in addressing the concerns raised by some Member States and international organizations with regard to its listing and de-listing procedures. The Committee believes that the revision of its listing guidelines and the adoption of Security Council resolution 1730 (2006), in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish a focal point within the Secretariat to receive de-listing petitions, will serve not only as a much needed tool for the Committee itself but, more importantly, for Member States in their efforts to implement the sanctions more effectively.

32. The definition of the term "associated with" provided in resolution 1617 (2005) was offered to Member States to assist them in their submission of new names for listing. The Committee strongly believes that adding all associates of Al-Qaida and the Taliban to its list can prevent them from committing terrorist acts and may possibly spare the lives of innocent civilians. The Committee notes that not all States have availed themselves of this definition and approached the Committee with a submission of the names of individuals and entities who would fall under this category. The Committee therefore continues to emphasize the need for further submissions of new names of associates of Al-Qaida and the Taliban and for corrections to the existing data on the list so that listed individuals and entities can be targeted with more precision. To further assist Member States, the Committee provided States with a cover sheet template as a guide for listing submissions on its website.

33. The Committee also looks forward to receiving information through the checklist, pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 1617 (2005). The first request of the Committee to Member States to submit relevant information through the checklist was transmitted on 30 January 2006 through a note verbale (SCA/2/06(4)). Member States are strongly encouraged to submit their checklists, if they have not done so.

34. The Monitoring Team has provided support and has helped the Committee achieve progress in its work. The Committee looks forward to the continuation of this support in the future.

35. As noted above, cooperation with Interpol was significantly strengthened during the course of 2006. The Committee continues to seek new ways to ensure that implementation of the sanctions measures against Al-Qaida and the Taliban is further strengthened, including through engaging in closer cooperation with other international and regional organizations and agencies.

36. The Committee, after having introduced several improvements to its website, such as the provision of general information about the work of the Committee and information on specific sanctions related issues, intends to further improve its functionality and presentation as the site continues to be a valuable tool for Member States in implementing the relevant sanctions measures.

## VII. Observations and conclusions

37. The Committee believes that it can continue to play an important role in the fight against international terrorism by maintaining, updating and improving its list of individuals and entities associated with Al-Qaida and the Taliban and by effectively monitoring, with the support of the Monitoring Team, the implementation by Member States of the sanctions targeting listed individuals and entities.

38. Al-Qaida and the Taliban and their associates continue to be one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. Their activities must be effectively addressed, including through the tool of sanctions. The Committee intends to further consolidate and strengthen what it has already achieved in its work and thus to contribute to a safer and more secure world.

# Appendix

## Changes made in the consolidated list of individuals and entities belonging to or associated with Al-Qaida and the Taliban in 2006

### A. Individuals added

| *Date* | *Name* | *Press release* |
|---|---|---|
| 7 February | Ghuma Abd'rabbah | SC/8632<br>8 February |
| | Abd Al-Rahman Al-Faqih | |
| | Mohammed Benhammedi | |
| | Abdulbaqi Mohammed Khaled | |
| | Tahir Nasuf | |
| 21 April | Abdullah Anshori | SC/8705<br>25 April |
| | Abu Bakar Ba'asyir | |
| | Gun Gun Rusman Gunawan | |
| | Taufik Rifki | |
| 31 July | Abu Sufian Al-Salamabi Muhammed | SC/8798<br>2 August |
| | Ahmed Abd Al-Razziq | |
| 2 August | Ismail Mohamed Ismail Abu Shaweesh | SC/8799<br>3 August |
| | Jamal Housni | |
| | Nessim Ben Romdhane Sahraoui | |
| | Merai Zoghbai | |
| 4 August | Abd Al Hamid Sulaiman Al-Mujil | SC/8801<br>4 August |
| 7 December | Najmuddin Faraj Ahmad | SC/8893<br>7 December |
| | Mohamed Moumou | |
| 12 December | Mohammed Al Ghabra | SC/8902<br>14 December |

## B. Entities added

| *Date* | *Name* | *Press release* |
|---|---|---|
| 7 February | Meadowbrook Investments Limited | SC/8632<br>8 February |
| | Ozlam Properties Limited | |
| | Sanabel Relief Agency Limited | |
| | Sara Properties Limited | |
| 4 August | International Islamic Relief Organization, Philippines, Branch Offices | SC/8801<br>4 August |
| 9 November | International Islamic Relief Organization, Indonesia, Branch Office | SC/8866<br>9 November |

## C. Individuals removed

| *Date* | *Name* | *Press release* |
|---|---|---|
| 18 January | Zeinab Mansour Fattouh | SC/8613<br>19 January |
| | Mohamed Mansour | |
| 24 August | Ali Ahmed Yusaf | SC/8815<br>24 August |

United Nations A/61/729–S/2007/60

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13 and 14

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-second year

# Identical letters dated 6 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to inform you of the alarming number of terror attacks carried out by Palestinian terrorists operating in the Gaza Strip over the past three weeks.

From Monday, 15 January 2007, until yesterday, Monday, 5 February 2007, no less than 30 rockets were fired by Palestinian terrorists in the Gaza Strip at Israeli communities in the south. These rocket attacks included the launching of Qassams and mortar shells.

Palestinian terror continues unabated, in grave violation of the agreed upon ceasefire between Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and President Mahmoud Abbas in late November. The persistence of Palestinian terror is an outright act of provocation, threatening the viability of sustainable peace and security in our region. The Hamas government must adhere to the three conditions of the international community, reaffirmed by the Quartet last week, and spare no effort to put an end to the violence and terror against Israel.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 14. An identical letter has been sent to Mr. Peter Burian, President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Daniel **Carmon**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

07-23123 (E) 080207

United Nations S/2007/61

# Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2007

Original: English

## Letter dated 2 February 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1740 (2007) dated 23 January 2007, by which the Council authorized the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) for an initial period of 12 months, as from the date of the resolution. In that resolution, the Council welcomed my recommendation that UNMIN be headed by a Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

It is my intention to appoint Ian Martin (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as my Special Representative in Nepal and Head of UNMIN with immediate effect. Mr. Martin has been serving most ably as my Personal Representative in Nepal since August, having previously served as the Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal.

I would be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-23184 (E) 080207

United Nations S/2007/62

# Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2007

Original: English

## Letter dated 7 February 2007 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 2 February 2007 (S/2007/61) concerning your intention to appoint Ian Martin (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as your Special Representative in Nepal and Head of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Peter **Burian**
President of the Security Council

07-23190 (E) 080207

United Nations A/61/731–S/2007/63

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2007
English
Original: Arabic

**General Assembly**
**Sixty-first session**
Agenda item 13
**The situation in the Middle East**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-second year**

## Identical letters dated 7 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to our previous letters nos. 146, 203, 281 and 353, and on instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical table of Israeli violations of Lebanese territory, airspace and regional waters during the month of January 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-23141 (E) 090207 090207

## Annex to the identical letters dated 7 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

### Statistical table showing Israeli violations during January 2007

| *Air violations* | | | | | *Land violations* | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Military act* | *Reconnaissance* | *Helicopter* | *Total* | *Sea violations* | *Military acts of aggression* | *Field violations* | *Breaches* | *Total* | *Previous month's total* |
| | | | | Crossing of territorial waters, and firing of automatic-weapons rounds, flares and flare shells over territorial waters | Air raids, artillery shelling, shelling of military positions and important posts, attacks on and killing of civilians | Gunfire, launching of flare shells, dropping of artillery shells, poison-gas balloons, infiltration and crossing of international borders | Threats and displaying of weapons, bulldozing of soil, placing of barbed wire and setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory | | |
| 17 | 49 | — | 66 | 1 | — | 7 | 3 | 77 | 96 |

United Nations S/2007/64

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2007

Original: English

## Letter dated 6 February 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1721 (2006) of 1 November 2006, in which the Security Council invited the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to review, before 1 February 2007, the progress achieved in the implementation of the peace process, and requested them to report to the Council, through the Secretary-General, on their assessment.

In this regard, I wish to convey the attached report on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, prepared by the ECOWAS Commission pursuant to paragraph 21 of the aforementioned resolution (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring this report to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-23202 (E) 140207

## Annex

### Situation report on Côte d'Ivoire

31 January 2007

## I. Introduction

1. The mandate given to the transitional Prime Minister, which was confirmed by the United Nations Security Council, is to implement all the provisions of the road map drawn up by the International Working Group and the Agreements concluded between the Ivorian parties, with a view to holding free, open, fair and transparent elections by 31 October 2007, with the support of the United Nations and potential donors. By resolution 1721 (2006) of 1 November 2006, the transitional Prime Minister is charged with the responsibility of executing the following programmes:

- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.
- Citizen identification and voter registration, as the basis for the compilation of a credible electoral list.
- Disarmament and dismantling of the militias.
- Restoration of State authority and of the administration and public services through the territory of Côte d'Ivoire.
- Technical preparations for the elections.
- The restructuring of the armed forces in accordance with paragraph 17 of the decision of the African Union Peace and Security Council and paragraph 3, article (f), of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement.

2. The present report is in compliance with paragraph 21 of Security Council resolution 1721 (2006) by which the Council requested the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to continue to monitor and closely follow up implementation of the peace process, and called on them to review progress achieved, by 1 February 2007. The Security Council also requested the two Institutions to present their assessment through the Secretary-General, and, if necessary, submit any new recommendations to the Council.

## II. Status of implementation of resolution 1721 (2006)

3. A significant development during the period under review was the Presidential Dialogue Initiative announced by President Laurent Gbagbo on 18 December 2006, and repeated in his New Year address to the nation, by which he engages the New Forces in direct negotiations designed to resolve the five-year-old conflict. The rationale for this approach was the acknowledgement that previous peace efforts had failed, hence the need to engage the major protagonist in direct talks, and resolve the crisis without outside interference. He put forward a five-point proposal that remained significantly silent on the Security Council framework embodied in resolution 1721 (2006).

4. The response from the New Forces to the latest Presidential Dialogue Initiative welcomed the move towards direct talks, but only within the framework of

resolution 1721 (2006), the said talks serving only as a mechanism for the implementation of the peace plan as identified in the resolution.

5. Despite the current stalemate in the Ivorian peace process, it is relevant to report certain positive developments that have taken place. The Transitional Prime Minister has continued to implement the day-to-day administrative programmes contained in the approved road map, through the Council of Ministers of which he is the Chairman. These include:

- The establishment of the working group on the preparations for the citizen identification exercise and the establishment of a voters register. The Prime Minister's office has met with the principal actors in the identification exercise, namely, the judiciary, court clerks/recorders and medical personnel, mayors etc., in order to clarify the procedure involved and its legal implications. Resumption of the identification exercise was scheduled for 15 January 2007, by which time the issue of the appointment of 208 additional courts and the appellate court would have been resolved.

- Tenders for the selection of the principal operators to carry out the identification exercise on behalf of the Government have been opened and are being screened in conjunction with the United Nations High Representative for the elections and UNOCI.

- On the issue of disarmament, work is ongoing on the preparation of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration sites for ex-combatants. The Quadripartite Monitoring Group established pursuant to the visit of the Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, to Yamoussoukro on 4 July 2006, has been constituted, but has yet to carry out verification of the pre-regroupment exercise, since work on the sites is yet to be concluded. Meanwhile, a seminar on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration was organized in Yamoussoukro on 27 and 28 November 2006.

- The disarming and dismantling of the militias which was discontinued during the National Programme for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration in August 2006 has yet to resume. However, discussions with the militia leaders on modalities for the resumption of the exercise are ongoing under the auspices of the Prime Minister.

**Major constraints**

6. As emphasized in the ECOWAS recommendations to the African Union, dated October 2006, the entire peace process depends to a large extent on the degree of confidence and collaboration between the two major executive arms of government — the President and the Transitional Prime Minister on the one hand, and all sections of the political class involved in the crisis, on the other.

7. However, there is still great concern over the manifest lack of political will to implement resolution 1721 (2006) and thereby advance the peace process. The political class continues to exhibit a lukewarm attitude towards the crisis and consequently to many crucial issues.

8. Relations between the President and the Prime Minister are anything but cordial. For example, since the adoption of resolution 1721 (2006), the Council of

Ministers, which is presided by the President, with the Prime Minister in attendance, and formally adopts decisions and proposals presented by the Executive Council, which is presided by the Prime Minister, has met only once. The tandem of President and Prime Minister, as acknowledged by the Prime Minister himself, is no longer pedalling in the same direction.

9. There are other points of divergence hinging on issues of governance, such as the handling of the toxic waste scandal during which the President reinstated government officials accused in an ad hoc report and suspended by the Prime Minister, the dismissal, again by the President, of the Directors-General of the Radio and Television Corporation and the Print Media Group, Fraternité Matin, as well as the dissolution of the Board of Directors of these State media groups.

**The Mediation Group**

10. In response to the worsening stalemate in the peace process and its repercussions on the already unstable socio-political and security situation, a delegation of the Mediation Group led by General Jean-Marie Mokoko, Chairman of the Group and Special Representative of the African Union Chairman in Côte d'Ivoire, undertook a consultative mission to the Heads of State of Nigeria, the Niger, Burkina Faso and the Congo, to brief them on the lack of improvement in the situation in the country, the implementation status of resolution 1721 (2006) and, more particularly, to entreat their intervention in order to move the stalled process forward.

11. A similar approach was proposed to the ECOWAS Council of Ministers, through a report presented at its meeting on 22 December 2006 in Ouagadougou.

## III. Decision of the Authority of Heads of State and Government

12. The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at its thirty-first session, held in Ouagadougou on 19 January 2007, having deliberated on and reviewed the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, decided as follows:

(a) They expressed deep concern over the persistence of the crisis and stressed the need to find a lasting solution to the crisis, based on the immediate concomitant launching of a programme of citizen identification and disarming of the armed groups in order to create the necessary conditions for the organization of free, fair and credible elections by October 2007.

(b) The Authority called upon all Ivorian political forces to cooperate in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1721 (2006).

(c) They welcomed the political dialogue initiative by President Laurent Gbagbo, for direct talks with Minister of State Guillaume Soro. The Authority further enjoined its Chairman to facilitate the dialogue so as to give momentum to the peace process.

(d) The Authority, in addition decided, in consultation with the African Union, to send a high-level delegation to the permanent members of the Security Council, with a view to exploring the ways and means of ensuring diligent application of resolution 1721 (2006) depending on the outcome of the dialogue.

(e) The Authority called upon the United Nations Security Council to visit Côte d'Ivoire to add further impetus to the peace process.

## IV. Latest developments

13. The current Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States, President Blaise Compaore, subsequent to the Summit decisions, held talks, first with the Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo in Ouagadougou and, thereafter, with Minister of State Guillaume Soro, of the Forces nouvelles in Bobo Dioulasso, in an effort to ensure a speedy engagement of the "direct talks" proposed by President Gbagbo.

14. The Heads of State and Government of the African Union at their Summit in Addis Ababa on 29 and 30 January 2007 similarly welcomed the proposed direct talks as a mechanism to advance the peace process.

## V. Observation

15. The socio-political situation in Côte d'Ivoire continues to generate great concern, and remained tense during the period under review. Any mediation effort must be premised on the need to ensure a harmonious relationship between the "direct talks" and the timely implementation of resolution 1721 (2006), President Laurent Gbagbo and the Transitional Prime Minister, Konan Banny.

## VI. Recommendations

16. In view of the developments highlighted in the present report, the Economic Community of West African States hereby appeals to the United Nations Secretary-General to request the Security Council to remain actively seized of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire. More importantly, ECOWAS would wish the Secretary-General to recommend to the Security Council to visit Côte d'Ivoire in the next few months as a means of re-energizing implementation of resolution 1721 (2006).